Workers transferred from Chitra Colliery (Bihar)

1253. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many workmen have so far been transferred from Chitra Colliery (Bihar) of Eastern Coalfields Limited during the current year;

(b) what are the reasons therefore;

(c) whether the management have handed over the work of Chitra Colliery to a contractor; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) As many as 361 workers have been transferred to other collieries since April this year.

(b) Because of the exhaustion of coal reserves in some of the workings, workers employed in Incline I of the Chitra Colliery had become surplus. Now they have been transferred for gainful employment to new workings in the area.

(c) No, Sir: Only certain heavy earth moving machineries have been hired from contractors for overburden removal, but all coal winning is done departmentally.

(d) Does not arise.

Investament decision on Mangalore Refinery

1254. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that investment decision on Mangalore Refinery by Public Investment Board has been deferred;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Refinery Project is likely to be delayed as a result thereof; and

(d) what steps Government are taking to avoid the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (d) The investment decision has to be taken by the Government. The matter is under consideration.

Poothee-Balihari Coalmine Project

1255. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rs. 200 crores Poothee-Balihari coalmine project with World Bank help is running two year behind schedule;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefore; and

(c) what steps are being taken to accelerate the completion of the project?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The project is running about 2 years behind schedule. The main reasons for delay of this project are:—

(1) Delay in acquisition of land;

(2) slow progress of shaft sinking due to bad strata conditions and heavy seepage of water.

(c) For expediting the acquisition of balance land required for the project the matter has been taken up with the State Government. Steps have been taken up to accelerate the speed of shaft sinking by providing additional inputs and by strengthening of organisation at this project. For this purpose services of Polish experts have also taken to oversee the sinking operation.

Cancellation of Gas Connections

1256. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the cooking gas connection is cancelled if the consumer does not get refilled the cylinder within a period of six months:

(b) whether Government propose to scrap this condition and extend the period; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) There are no instructions from Oil Marketing Companies to their LPG distributors to this effect.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Disconnection of Power Supply

1257. SHRI BHAGAT RAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:
SHRIMATI MANORAMA PANDEY:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Members of Parliament have complained to Government regarding disconnection of power supply at various residences in South Delhi and particularly in Malviya Nagar, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that power supply was disconnected in a number of cases recently in spite of upto date payments made by the owners; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof and what action has been taken by Government against erring officials in not discharging their duties properly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Irregularities committed by Telex Opperators of Coal India Limited, New Delhi

1258. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Members of Parliament have complained to Government during the last one year regarding unlawful and nefarious activities of some Telex Operators working in the Coal India Limited, New Delhi;

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon;

(c) whether it is a fact that there are a number of Court cases pending against some Telex Operators and other employees of Coal India Limited, New Delhi and if so, whether the Office has been informed of these Court cases and if not what action has been taken against each of them; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that some Telex Operators are claiming higher House Rent Allowance against fictitious receipts and if so, what action has been taken against them by Government?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI SAVANT SATHE) (a) Government have received a reference from a Member of Parliament forwarding a representation against a Telex Operator working in the Office of Coal India Limited at New Delhi.

(b) The matter related to a personal dispute between the Telex Operator and his landlord. The Company not being a part to the dispute, no action was called for.

(c) Coal India Limited is not aware of any court cases pending against any Telex Operator or any other employee of Coal India Limited located at New Delhi.

(d) House Rent Allowance is being paid as per relevant Rules of Coal India Limited